AMENI	DMENT T	RANSMIT	TAL LE	TTER	After Fi	nal Rejection
Application No. 10/672,327		Filing Date September 26, 2003		Examine B. E. Sno	w	Group Art Unit 3738
Applicant(s): Lance Middleton					Docket No. SPINE 3.0-2144 DIV II	
nvention: ARTIFI	CIAL INTERVE	ERTEBRAL DI	sc			
Transmitted herev				OR PATENTS		
The fee has been						
		CLAIM	S AS AMEN	DED	-	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate		
Total Claims	6	- 21 =		×		
Independent Claims	3	- 4 =		x	·	
Multiple Depend	ent Claims (ch	eck if applicabl	le)			
Other fee (please	e specify):					
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:						0.00
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	sioner is hereb			I credit Deposit A	Account No	. 12-1095
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x Charge a	ny additional fili	ng or applicatio	n processing	fees required und	er 37 CFR 1	1.16 and 1.17.
Braymond W. Au	Mysestin			Dated:	July 7	7, 2006
Attorney Reg. N						
LERNER, DAVI 600 South Aven Westfield, New (908) 518-6318	ue West	RG, KRUMHO	LZ & MENTL	IK, LLP		
I hereby certify that this p	paper (along with any	paper referred to as	s being attached or	r enclosed) is being dep	osited with the	U.S. Postal Service on

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Dated: July 7, 2006

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail, in an envelope addressed to:

MS AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 7850, Alexandria, IA 22313/1950.

Dated: July 7, 2006

Signature:

aymond W. Augustin)

EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 3738

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-2144 DIV II

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Lance Middleton

Application No.: 10/672,327 : Group Art Unit: 3738

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Filed: September 26, 2003 : Examiner: B. E. Snow

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For: ARTIFICIAL INTERVERTEBRAL DISC

## AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated March 9, 2006 and Advisory Action dated June 9, 2006, finally rejecting claims 1-11 and 13-15, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: